(Rs. in Crores)

Year	IOC	HPCL	BPCL
2006-2007	33664.92	9259.70	9912.00
2007-2008	39893.88	10224.28	11315.30

Shortage of cooking gas in Kerala

2430. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of cooking gas in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard;

(d) the details of monthly requirement of LPG cooking gas cylinders in Kerala and the details of sale of LPG cylinders; and

(e) the action taken to bridge the gap between requirement and sale?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have reported that at present, there is no overall shortage of LPG in the country including in the State of Kerala and LPG supplies to distributors are being made by the OMCs through indigenous production and imports in accordance with the genuine demand of customers registered with the LPG distributors.

However, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC) and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) have reported backlog of 1-2 days in LPG supplies in the States of Delhi, Kerala and Tamil Nadu mainly because of spurt in demand, heavy rains, transporter agitation and various bandhs etc. Government has advised OMCs to liquidate the backlog in the States by operating the bottling plants on holidays and during extended hours.

(d) and (e) Requirement of LPG in each State varies from month to month and State to State. The demand/sales of domestic LPG in the State of Kerala during the period April to November, 2008 is 299.47 TMT as against 289.50 TMT during the corresponding period of last year.

Windfall profits of Private Oil Companies

2431. SHRI R. C. SINGH:
SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the private oil companies in the country are enjoying windfall profits due to the high global crude prices;

(b) whether it is also a fact that when the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) was adopted for the private oil companies, the crude oil prices were much below the present global crude prices;